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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/073,600	02/11/2002	Mark T. Girard	AKI00004/US/2	9085

33072 7590 01/18/2005

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EXAMINER

KIM, PAUL D

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3729

DATE MAILED: 01/18/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Advisory Action	Application No. 10/073,600	Applicant(s) GIRARD ET AL.	
	Examiner Paul D Kim	Art Unit 3729	

--The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

THE REPLY FILED 10 January 2005 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE. Therefore, further action by the applicant is required to avoid abandonment of this application. A proper reply to a final rejection under 37 CFR 1.113 may only be either: (1) a timely filed amendment which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a timely filed Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee); or (3) a timely filed Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114.

PERIOD FOR REPLY [check either a) or b)]

- a) ☒ The period for reply expires 3 months from the mailing date of the final rejection.
- b) ☐ The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection. ONLY CHECK THIS BOX WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).

Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

1. ☒ A Notice of Appeal was filed on 10 January 2005. Appellant's Brief must be filed within the period set forth in 37 CFR 1.192(a), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 1.191(d)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal.
2. ☐ The proposed amendment(s) will not be entered because:
- (a) ☐ they raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);
 - (b) ☐ they raise the issue of new matter (see Note below);
 - (c) ☐ they are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or
 - (d) ☐ they present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.

NOTE: _____.

3. ☐ Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): _____.
4. ☐ Newly proposed or amended claim(s) _____ would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).
5. ☒ The a) ☐ affidavit, b) ☐ exhibit, or c) ☒ request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: See Continuation Sheet.
6. ☐ The affidavit or exhibit will NOT be considered because it is not directed SOLELY to issues which were newly raised by the Examiner in the final rejection.
7. ☒ For purposes of Appeal, the proposed amendment(s) a) ☐ will not be entered or b) ☒ will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.

The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:

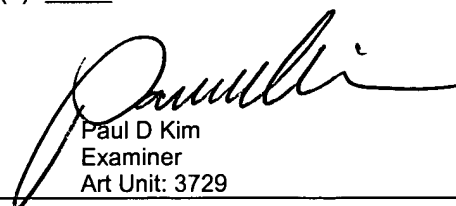
Claim(s) allowed: _____.

Claim(s) objected to: 6 and 11.

Claim(s) rejected: 1-5, 7-10 and 12-14.

Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: _____.

8. ☐ The drawing correction filed on _____ is a) ☐ approved or b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
9. ☐ Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____.
10. ☐ Other: _____


 Paul D Kim
 Examiner
 Art Unit: 3729

Continuation of 5. does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: Applicant argues that the assembling method of the claimed invention is performed in a specific inventive order as per claims 1 and 12. Applicant argues that the attachment of the slider to the flex circuit and attachment of the slider to the electrical lead of the flex circuit are accomplished prior to the attachment of these component to a suspension. Examiner traverses the argument that there is no sequential order in the claimed invention such as "prior to". Applicant argues that the prior art of record fails to teach a process of attaching a slider to an insulation layer of a flex circuit. Examiner traverses the argument that the flexible conductive element (equivalent with the flex circuit) of Iwamoto comprises conductive leads laminated to plastic film (equivalent with the insulation layer) and electrically connected (equivalent with attaching) to the slider as recited in lines 64-66 in col. 3. As per claim 13 applicant also argues that the prior art of record fails to disclose the claimed invention such as measuring the static angle of any type of flexure, particularly a circuited flexure before attaching the flexure to the suspension. Schudel discloses that each component of the assembly is manufactured according to specific design specifications and is bench tested for predetermined static parameters. Therefore, it could be obvious to test each component of the assembly such as head/gimbal assembly prior to attach assembly to the suspension.